

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 26 to 30 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter.

The claims, as currently pending in the application, read as follows:

1. (Previously presented) An information processing apparatus comprising:

a receiving unit adapted to receive a request and template data including a reusable object, an index of a variable object and position data of the variable object from an external apparatus;

a generation unit adapted to generate, in response to a received request from the external apparatus, print data corresponding to a preview displayed on a display screen on the external apparatus, wherein the generation unit generates print data by merging the reusable object in the template data and the variable object by using the reusable object, the index of the variable object and the position data of the variable object in the template data, and wherein the index of the variable object is extracted from the template data and the index of the variable object from the template data is used during the merging process;

a selecting unit adapted to select a print server to transmit the generated print data from plural print servers, wherein the print server is selected in accordance with the external apparatus;

an obtaining unit adapted to obtain instructions for printing via the display screen on the external apparatus; and

a transmission control unit adapted to control transmission so that the print data generated by said generation unit is transmitted to a print server selected by the selecting unit in response to the obtaining unit for obtaining instructions for printing.

2. (Original) An information processing apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a specification unit adapted to specify a template for generating the print data and data to be inserted into the template,

wherein said generation unit generates the print data based on the template and the data specified by said specification unit.

3. (Previously presented) An information processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the display screen comprises a display screen displayed on a Web browser, and the request from the external apparatus is communicated between the Web browser on the external apparatus and a Web server on the information processing apparatus.

4. (Original) An information processing apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a determination unit adapted to determine, when the print server can transmit data to a plurality of printers, which printer is to be used to perform printing by analyzing the request from the external apparatus,

wherein said transmission control unit controls transmission so that the print data and information designating the printer determined by said determination unit is transmitted.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously presented) A print system which includes an information processing apparatus and a print server for causing a printer to perform printing, comprising:

a receiving unit adapted to receive a request and template data including a reusable object, an index of a variable object and position data of the variable object from an external apparatus;

a generation unit adapted to generate, in response to a received request from the external apparatus, print data corresponding to a preview displayed on a display screen on the external apparatus, wherein the generation unit generates print data by merging the reusable object in the template data and the variable object by using the reusable object, the index of the variable object and the position data of the variable object in the template data, and wherein the index of the variable object is extracted from the template data and the index of the variable object from the template data is used during the merging process;

a selecting unit adapted to select a print server to transmit the generated print data from plural print servers, wherein the print server is selected in accordance with the external apparatus;

an obtaining unit adapted to obtain instructions for printing via the display screen on the external apparatus; and

a transmission control unit adapted to control transmission so that the print data generated by said generation unit is transmitted from the information processing apparatus to a print server selected by the selecting unit in response to the obtaining unit for obtaining instructions for printing.

7. (Previously presented) A print system according to Claim 6, further comprising:

a specification unit adapted to specify, in response to the request from the external apparatus, a template for generating the print data corresponding to the display screen displayed on the external apparatus and data to be inserted into the template,

wherein said generation unit generates the print data based on the template and the data specified by said specification unit.

8. (Previously presented) A print system according to Claim 6, wherein the display screen comprises a display screen displayed on a Web browser, and the request from the external apparatus is communicated between the Web browser on the external apparatus and a Web server on the information processing apparatus.

9. (Original) A print system according to Claim 6, further comprising:

a determination unit adapted to determine, when the print server can transmit data to a plurality of printers, which printer is to be used to perform printing by analyzing the request from the external apparatus,

wherein said transmission control unit controls transmission so that the print data and information designating the printer determined by said determination unit is transmitted.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously presented) An information processing method comprising:

- a receiving step of receiving a request and template data including a reusable object, an index of a variable object and position data of the variable object from an external apparatus;
- a generating step of generating, in response to a received request from the external apparatus, print data corresponding to a preview displayed on a display screen on the external apparatus, wherein the generating step generates print data by merging the reusable object in the template data and the variable object by using the reusable object, the index of the variable object and the position data of the variable object in the template data, and wherein the index of the variable object is extracted from the template data and the index of the variable object from the template data is used during the merging process;
- a selecting step of selecting a print server to transmit the generated print data from plural print servers, wherein the print server is selected in accordance with the external apparatus;
- an obtaining step of obtaining instructions for printing via the display screen on the external apparatus; and
- a transmission step of controlling transmission so that the print data generated in said generating step is transmitted to a print server selected in the selecting step in response to the obtaining step for obtaining instructions for printing.

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12. (Original) An information processing method according to Claim 11, further comprising:

- a specifying step of specifying a template for generating the print data and data to be inserted into the template,

wherein, in said generating step, the print data is generated based on the template and the data specified in said specifying step.

13. (Previously presented) An information processing method according to Claim 11, wherein the display screen comprises a display screen displayed on a Web browser, and the request from the external apparatus is communicated between the Web browser on the external apparatus and a Web server on the information processing apparatus.

14. (Original) An information processing method according to Claim 11, further comprising:

a determining step of determining, when the print server can transmit data to a plurality of printers, which printer is to be used to perform printing by analyzing the request from the external apparatus,

wherein, in said transmission control step, transmission is controlled so that the print data and information designating the printer determined in said determining step is transmitted.

15. to 20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously presented) A computer-readable recording medium having stored therein a program for causing a computer to perform processing, the program comprising:

code for a receiving step of receiving a request and template data including a reusable object, an index of a variable object and position data of the variable object from an external apparatus;

code for a generating step of generating, in response to a received request from the external apparatus, print data which corresponds to a preview displayed on a display screen on the external apparatus, wherein the generating step generates print data by merging the reusable object in the template data and the variable object by using the reusable object, the index of the variable object and the position data of the variable object in the template data, and wherein the index of the variable object is extracted from the template data and the index of the variable object from the template data is used during the merging process;

code for a selecting step of selecting a print server to transmit the generated print data from plural print servers, wherein the print server is selected in accordance with the external apparatus;

code for an obtaining step of obtaining instructions for printing via the display screen on the external apparatus; and

code for a transmission control step of controlling transmission so that the print data generated in the generating step is transmitted to a print server selected in the selecting step in response to the obtaining step for obtaining instructions for printing.

22. (Original) A recording medium according to Claim 21, wherein the program further comprises:

code for a specifying step of specifying a template for generating the print data and data to be inserted into the template,

wherein, in the generating step, the print data is generated based on the template and the data specified in the specifying step.

23. (Previously presented) A recording medium according to Claim 21, wherein the display screen comprises a display screen displayed on a Web browser, and the request from the external apparatus is communicated between the Web browser on the external apparatus and a Web server on the information processing apparatus.

24. (Original) A recording medium according to Claim 21, wherein the program further comprises:

code for a determining step of determining, when the print server can transmit data to a plurality of printers, which printer is to be used to perform printing by analyzing the request from the external apparatus,

wherein, in the transmission control step, transmission is controlled so that the print data and information designating the printer determined in the determining step is transmitted.

25. to 30. (Canceled)